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## The Brooklyn Paper

Including Carroll Gardens-Cobble Hill Paper, The Downtown News, Fort Greene-Clinton Hill Paper and DUMBO Paper

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## HEADACHES

### Bridge fix to last decade

By Deborah Kolben  
The Brooklyn Papers

To those DUMBO residents who thought an end to construction on the Manhattan Bridge was near — guess again.

While the bridge will reopen all four subway tracks late next month for the first time in almost 20 years, the bridge rehabilitation project will extend far into the decade, a Department of Transportation spokesman told The Brooklyn Papers this week.

So while the city celebrates the long-awaited return of the N and R service over the bridge, DUMBO residents will still have to live with the rumbling DOT trucks, the blocked Water Street passageway — a picturesque archway that once connected the neighborhoods of DUMBO and Vinegar Hill — and the unsightly aluminum fences below the iconic 95-year-old span.

But as the commercial district becomes increasingly residential, with an active civic group, residents are itching to see the fences come down and have the space beneath the bridge returned.

"The Manhattan Bridge is a gorgeous structure and when you have it chainlinked and barbed and a bunch of old trucks and garbage sitting around, it's a blight on the neighborhood," said Nancy Webster, president of the DUMBO Neighborhood Association (DNA).

"If you have ever seen [the 1964 Sergio Leone gangster epic] 'Once Upon a Time in America' you realize what a beautiful soaring space that is and what an asset it would be to the neighborhood to have that reopened for our use," said Webster.

In the film, starring Robert De Niro and James Woods, viewers can catch a glimpse of

See **BRIDGE** on page 5

# BRUCE ALMIGHTY

## Condemned land owners steam as Ratner pal's spared wrecking ball

By Deborah Kolben  
The Brooklyn Papers

While developer Bruce Ratner is busy trying to promote a professional basketball arena for the New Jersey Nets in the heart of Brooklyn, some developers are crying foul.

That's because if all goes as planned, the colossal, \$2.5 billion Atlantic Yards project at the corner of Atlantic and Flatbush avenues, extending into Prospect Heights, would displace their buildings while allowing an exception for one particular high-powered developer — Shaya Boyemgreen.

In order to construct the sweeping, Frank Gehry-designed project, including four soaring office towers and 13 residential and commercial buildings, Ratner, widely known for the Metrotech office complex in Downtown Brooklyn, would have to get access of privately owned land seized by the state under the statute of eminent domain — a power of the government to take private property for the public good.

Included in that parcel is a 20,000-square-foot lot at Carlton Avenue between Pacific and Dean streets owned by Henry Weinstein, a major property owner in the area for the past 30 years.

"If I've been there all these years I don't know why the city has the right to give it to somebody else," said Weinstein.

"It's a slap in the face to all of the people who discovered the area and invested in it," he said. "Our properties should be taken by eminent domain to benefit this guy who doesn't pay any real estate taxes!"

But Boyemgreen, principal of A.I. & Boyemgreen, who has kept quiet on the Nets plan, stands to benefit from the deal.

The plans for the Ratner complex conspicuously exclude adjacent property surrounding Boyemgreen's recently converted Newsweek condominium, a 170-unit, luxury development at 700 Pacific St. in an old Daily News printing plant that is also home to the Boyemgreen company's offices.

"It's a phenomenal attraction that will be a boost to Brook-



The Newsweek condominium (above) at 170 Pacific St. would not be taken via eminent domain to make way for Bruce Ratner's planned Atlantic Yards project while others would.

lyn," Will Kim, the company's director of retail development and marketing, said about the proposed arena.

"We're not just getting a stadium, we're building local stars," he added.

But in addition to building stars, Boyemgreen might also be building his real estate empire.

"Bruce is not doing this project alone," Kim said about the project.

See **BRUCE** on page 6

## D'town Plan hearing Thurs

By Deborah Kolben  
The Brooklyn Papers

The city's \$100 million rezoning plan to convert Downtown Brooklyn into a major commercial hub with soaring skyscrapers is plowing full steam ahead through the city's land use review process.

As Community Board 2 gears up to make its recommendation — the first hurdle in the process — the community at large will have an opportunity to weigh in at a public hearing on Thursday, Jan. 15, at 7 pm, at Brooklyn Technical High School, on Fort Greene Place at Dekalb Avenue.

While the sweeping plan would bring 18,500 jobs to Brooklyn, according to the Economic Development Corporation, some detractors claim that planners are not sufficient accounting for the drastic im-

pact on streets, mass transit and the environment.

The Downtown Brooklyn Coalition, a group of about 20 civic organizations that banded together after learning about the plan in February, is concerned that traffic and transportation are not being adequately addressed.

"We would love to see quality, successful development that works and is consistent with Brooklyn's character," said Jo Anne Simon, an attorney and land use committee chair for the Boerum Hill Association, which is part of the coalition. "But what they're doing doesn't appear to be that kind of development."

The coalition also includes the Brooklyn Heights Association, the Atlantic Avenue Betterment Association, the Fort Greene Association, the DUMBO Neighborhood Association.

See **DTOWN** on page 5



## Arch of light

New Year's fireworks light up the sky behind the arch at Grand Army Plaza to ring in 2004. The fireworks, sponsored by the Prospect Park Alliance, have become a Brooklyn tradition.

# School boards closed for good

By Jotham Sederstrom  
The Brooklyn Papers

Parents and teachers in southern and western Brooklyn could get the short end of the stick when the city begins dismantling its community school boards later this year, say members within districts 20 and 21, two governing boards long praised for their effectiveness.

The U.S. Department of Justice granted approval last week to the city's plan to replace its 32 school boards, long criticized as ineffective and corrupt. Mayor Michael Bloomberg called them "patronage milks."

They'll be replaced with 12-member Education Councils, also called parent councils, comprised of nine parents, two community members and a high school senior without voting privileges. In an attempt to streamline the process by which parents communicate with the schools chancellor's office, the parents will be selected by the PTA president, treasurer and secretary,

while the community members will be chosen by the borough presidents. Each school district, like District 20, which has 31 schools, will have one parent council.

The reorganization is the last step in the complete overhaul of the city's school system, begun last year when the school districts were effectively replaced by 10 instructional divisions, or regions. Region 7 replaced districts 20 and 21, while Region 8 replaced district 15 and parts of 13. District superintendents were replaced by regional supervisors.

Under the new Education Council selection process, however, dozens of current school board members could be pushed out. Before, the entire community cast ballots in a convoluted voting process for nine slots on the board. Now, candidates for those slots are required to be parents of school-aged children and their candidacies will be reviewed by the PTAs in each district, entities that at some schools are non-existent.

Carmine Santa Maria, president of Community School Board 21, said that will force many of the current members out. Indeed, he's hoping to be considered for a community member slot to the new council. In District 20, meanwhile, only two school board members would qualify for parent slots in the new council.

"If [parents] aren't interested enough to be in the PTA, what makes you think they're going to bother with parent councils?" he asked. "The way the regime is working right now, it's not working right now."

Santa Maria said that members of School Board 21 would be meeting to discuss the issues at 7 pm on Wednesday, Jan. 14, at the old school board office at 521 West Ave.

Other high-ranking school board members in Bensonhurst and Bay Ridge complain that the Department of Education has kept them in the dark as to how the new process will work. The city has 90 days to

See **BOARDS** on page 10



## Hats off!

This baby boy, yet to be named, was born to Rochel Benscary at Maimonides Medical Center in Borough Park at 12:33 am on Jan. 1, 2004. For more New Year's babies, turn to page 7.

## Jim Bouton cries 'Foul' over arena

By Deborah Kolben  
The Brooklyn Papers

Jim Bouton is no rookie when it comes to telling it like it is.

And now the former Yankee pitcher and all-star, who rocked the baseball world in 1970 with his tell-all book, "Ball Four," an expose of the frat-party side of the nation's favorite pastime, has taken up a new cause — fighting the plan to build a professional basketball arena in Downtown Brooklyn.

He's coming to Brooklyn this week to talk about it. Just last year, Bouton published his second book "Foul Ball," a 354-page diary of his battle to save Wadsworth Park, one of the oldest baseball stadiums in the country located near his home in Pittsfield, Mass.

When Pittsfield leaders tried to tear down the 4,000-seat minor league stadium and build a new \$18 million park just miles away, Bouton and a group of supporters raised a stink. Bouton is now throwing his support behind Brooklynites opposing the plan to build a 20,000-seat professional basketball arena at the intersection of Atlantic and Flatbush avenues.

Developer Bruce Ratner, with the backing of Mayor Michael Bloomberg and Borough President Marty Marko-



Jim Bouton

witz, announced plans to build the \$2.5 billion arena complex which would include 17 sweeping towers and 4,500-units of housing.

While the developers would not take any public money up front, millions of dollars of tax revenue generated from the arena — everything from Coca Cola sales to the income tax on the player's multimillion dollar salaries — would be funneled back into the project.

Bouton, 64, who calls the Downtown arena plan tax abatement "corporate welfare," and went on to become a television sportscaster at WABC and

See **BOUTON** on page 10



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# Markowitz responds to arena critics

To the editor:

I am responding to the letters by some well-meaning residents of Prospect Heights published recently [in the Dec. 22 and Dec. 29 Brooklyn Papers] in opposition to the proposed arena plan for Brooklyn.

Let me begin by clarifying my role in this project: I am not bidding on the team, structuring the finances of this deal, nor designing the project. My role has been and will always be fighting for Brooklyn. That's why I have been pushing for the Nets and for an arena since the day I became borough president and that's why I am working to address issues of displacement and other important community concerns.

I continue to believe more than ever that bringing world-class professional sports and a world-class arena to Brooklyn would tremendously benefit our borough by boosting our profile around the nation and the world, by enhancing pride in Brooklyn and by creating desperately needed economic development, jobs and affordable and middle-income housing. You can bet I'll be working hard to make sure the jobs and the homes go to the Brooklynites who need them.

Bringing a national sports team and an arena to Brooklyn is an issue that I campaigned on. I don't want anyone ever leaving Brooklyn for anything! I am confident that a national basketball franchise in Brooklyn will immediately become one of the country's best-loved teams. As a result, this would draw new visitors to our borough and be a huge boost to Brooklyn's growing tourism industry.

Perhaps just as important is Brooklyn's need for an arena. Currently, Brooklyn lacks a large multipurpose indoor space. So in addition to a home for the Nets, an arena would allow Brooklyn to host college and high-school athletic events, graduations, trade shows, concerts, kennel shows, ice shows, conventions and numerous other events that we currently miss out on.

Now, if you share my excitement about an arena and a national sports team then the issue becomes where to put it. Common sense, good urban planning and care for the environment would tell you that the arena must be located where visitors have the best access by mass transit, so that the least number of cars will be necessary. Suggestions made by some to place an arena in the Navy Yard or near Coney Is-



Borough President Markowitz

land are at best impractical and at worst cynical NIMBYism.

Ask yourself: Should it really go where cars are the only means of access and the potential for economic success is limited?

The proposed site at Brooklyn's Atlantic Terminal is Brooklyn's transit center and the third biggest transit hub in the New York metropolitan area, boasting nine subway lines, four bus lines and the Long Island Rail Road. The site's unrivaled proximity to public transportation gives this project the best chance to stimulate economic development and to make the Nets the success they could never be in the isolated swamplands of New Jersey or in some other corner of the region. The immediate neighborhood would flourish. Avenues such as Atlantic, Flatbush, Carlton and Vanderbilt that already boast many successful businesses would grow into even more thriving shopping and entertainment destinations.

Some argue that the cost of building a magnificent landmark project designed by Frank Gehry, the world's pre-eminent architect — which includes a world-class arena, a beautiful park and thousands of units of desperately needed affordable and middle-income housing — is too high. However, the public's investment in the proposed arena plan has been grossly exaggerated; in fact it would be rather

modest for a project of this magnitude. The benefits and amenities it would provide — social and economic, short- and long-term — would be the most significant project accomplished in Brooklyn in decades, especially when you factor in the overwhelming demand in Brooklyn for affordable housing and jobs.

Regardless of your perspective, a new use for the Atlantic Rail Yard is not only inevitable, it's imminent. The Rail Yards are a long-forsaken tract of centrally located land, ripe for development and something else with far fewer positives could end up there if the arena project fails.

Change is inevitable, but it should be guided for the greatest benefit. To those who live in Prospect Heights and other neighborhoods near this site, I understand your concerns, and I can tell you that the rest of Brooklyn does too. Netting the Nets must be a win-win for all of us who call Brooklyn home and any project of this scale must have real community involvement to be successful. The plan as presented so far is not perfect nor is it final. That's why the moment the purchase of the Nets and their move to Brooklyn is approved, I will be working with the community on a variety of issues, such as parking, traffic and neighborhood amenities that must be addressed successfully for this project to work.

Nothing would make me happier than doing this without taking a single home or business. Please know that I have been urging the developer, Forest City Ratner, to be creative on this project and encouraging them to do everything possible to avoid displacement and disruption in the neighborhood. I am working to make this plan the best one possible for area residents and local businesses, including those directing their anger and fear in my direction.

I believe we can have both an arena and a better neighborhood. We can elevate Brooklyn to the national stage while enhancing the neighborhoods we love. Together, I hope we can all start a fast break toward Brooklyn's future — and end it with a slam-dunk.

Mary Markowitz  
Brooklyn Borough President

## LETTERS

### Arena plan is a 'step forward'

To the editor:

The arena project for the Downtown area is clearly a step forward for Brooklyn. There is nothing disturbing about your publication has (inappropriately) taken a very active stance in opposing it, as evidenced by its slanted coverage.

Brace Ratner should be congratulated for his bold, visionary actions on behalf of the residents of this borough. And yes — Brooklyn is very much its own city, complete with its own economy, cultural life and character. Far from being "Manhattanized," Brooklyn is only now stepping into its own as the city it ceased to be (only by virtue of its governmental institutions) in 1898.

However, rather than providing support for the project, or even fair-minded and constructive criticism, your publication seems to focus on the handful of "community activists" who argue — in direct contrast to the overwhelming proof to the contrary — that the "endangered" structures are vital to the community and to the borough.

Let's be honest: the targeted area is presently, at best, dangerous to traverse. The area in question is not so much a neighborhood but the shell of what may once have been a neighborhood.

The buildings are in decay and the "business" which operate therein are either highly replaceable or in an equal state of decay. Nothing will be lost that can't be replaced — or that is simply better off being demolished outright. Job creation, enhancing local safety and physical environment, and bolstering the independent character of Brooklyn are clearly the goals served by the project. Leave the wistful nostalgia to Jane Jacobs and her weepy disciples. Cities require growth and a steady stream of commerce to live and breathe. These have not been provided by the dissenters presently. Now let the builders take their turn... without the bows and hisses.

Marc J. Monte, Esq., Bay Ridge  
Editor's note: The Brooklyn Papers has not taken a position on the proposed development.

### Send us a letter

By mail: Letters Editor, The Brooklyn Papers, 55 Washington St., Brooklyn 11201. By fax: (718) 834-9278. By e-mail: Newsroom@BrooklynPapers.com. Letters may be edited.

### Future of the 'arena' area

To the editor:

We have seen the first sketches for Bruce Ratner's "abominable arena" for Brooklyn's downtown area. Elsewhere others have analyzed its many problems: the taking of private property for profit, the loss of billions in future income to the city, the increased traffic and congestion, the poor aesthetics, the lack of land use reviews, etc.

I am confident that Ratner will not get the Nets franchise, what we are seeing is a game where a wealthy corporation (a sports team) pits one city against another. Even if he does manage to buy the Nets, the collective smarts and political power of many of Brooklyn's residents will be able to keep this overblown plan from being built at this site, fancy architect or not.

That leaves us with the question of what should happen there, along Atlantic Avenue, east of Flatbush Avenue. Planning for the growth, renewal, and for change in our city neighborhoods has been all too reactive, for too many years. Government leaders seem to sit and wait until private developers announce a plan to build at this site — the rights to land — cheaply enough, then they propose building what will return the maximum profit to them, with the least outlay by them. And if the public takes the major risks, investing its future income, all the better. Politicians cheer from the sidelines. Is this leadership?

It is time to be proactive. I am as opposed to Ratner's plans as much as any sane resident of Prospect Heights. But after 15 years here, I recognize that the city, the community, the governmental owners of this land should be developing and improving these train storage yards. Shouldn't this space be developed? — the yards are fairly ugly, cold in winter, hot in summer, and could relatively easily be decked over for some good uses, but certainly not for any more residential housing.

The name that Ratner has chosen for his megalopolis in the midst of our low-rise brownstone communities, "Atlantic Yards," should tell us something about the lack of imagination at work here. It reminds me of suburban developments named "Femdale Woods, or Meadowlark Glen. They might have once had daisies or glens, but all that remains are the street signs. Ratner would remove the yards, but keep the name. Let's imagine a few other possibilities for this land:

• **Fifth to Sixth Avenue** — a Public Market, above the rail yards, an "Atlantic Terminal Market" if you will, covered overhead (with some interesting architecture), creating an airy "indoor," heated in winter, cooled in

summer, as an incubator for small businesses — food sellers, both local and regional farmers and bakers, (much like the very successful Greenmarkets), plus crafts, books, music, etc. There would be low startup costs for vendors, short- and long-term leasing, careful planning to minimize impact of delivery traffic. Additionally, convert the storage yards below to an enlarged LIRR train station, to handle, and encourage, non-automobile commuting for the employees in millions of square feet of new office space planned to the north along Flatbush Avenue. Every other rail track in the yard could be built over to become a station platform. Brooklyn, New York City, and the nation certainly all need more rail traffic and less street traffic.

• **Sixth to Vanderbilt Avenues** — Low-density, truly affordable, residential-commercial development. Low-rise (2- to 6-story) housing, with mixed apartment sizes, with some commercial spaces, generally smaller footages, for small businesses, lawyers, medical offices, as neighborhood-oriented businesses, but not regional, not "big box," soul-less malls.

One important question is what is the definition of affordable, a phrase thrown around a lot but with few specifics, much like being for mom or apple pie? I think a good starting point for anyone using the term is "affordable for someone who earns less than I do." How about \$1,000 a month, or less, for a decent-sized, two-bedroom (900-1,000-square-foot)? That would fit within the usual financial standards — 25 percent of your income for housing. 12 months x \$1,000 = \$12,000, which is 25 percent of a \$48,000 yearly family income.

Some of the advantages to this kind of plan are there is no need for condemnations using eminent domain; much lower construction and site preparation costs; portions may qualify for federal funding (rail transportation); no city streets would be blocked off (the B63 bus could keep its route, for example); no need for

3,000-car parking garages (though many in the area would like to see some off-street parking for the nearby 78th police precinct).

This plan might sound like Rose-fication (think South Street Seaport), but most would agree that is better than Ratnerization!

I should add that I am an amateur here, I am not a city planner or an architect. I think there are a lot of good ideas out there if the communities were truly involved, and not simply handed a plan. As an example, my neighbor has a vision: she suggests re-extending the small streets that were cut off by the construction of Atlantic Commons and Atlantic Terminal. She wants to see streets like South Elliot and Clemenston go from Atlantic Avenue to Pacific Street. She also suggests adding a new small street that curves, meanders even, down the middle between Atlantic and Pacific, from Fifth to Vanderbilt Avenues. She puts in small-scale, in-context housing similar to Atlantic Commons (using the best possible design) and lots of green spaces on this "deck-over" of the yards, which would stay. This is development that fits the need of borough of Brooklyn, and the neighborhoods, minimizes new traffic, does not cost billions, but millions. It is most certainly not development that fills a developer's pockets, or fulfills a developer's political needs.

Here's yet another radical idea: why not a real ball PARK for the use of neighborhood youth? One closing thought: we have not heard much from the residents of nearby Park Slope. Maybe this project is not yet on their radar screen, or perhaps they hope that it will help their property values, while somehow not impacting on their quality-of-life? Anyone who has seen Flatbush Avenue at a standstill, from downtown to Grand Army Plaza during rush hours, will understand that no neighborhood exists in a vacuum. Pay attention Slopers, you will not like "Ratner's Revenge." I promise you.

Paul Sheridan, Prospect Heights

### Shelter foes 'delusional'?

To the editor:

Having lost in both Supreme Court and the court of public opinion, and having been shamed into saying they will no longer disclose the site's location (as opposed to actually not disclosing it), opponents of the NY Asian Women's Center's Rose House have now decided to use the realm of fantasy and fables.

The "Concerned Citizens of Carroll Gardens" ran an ad in your [Dec. 22 edition] that stated: "Asian men from Chinatown, Flushing and Sunset Park continue to come to the block to look for their wives." Surely, if such things had occurred, one would think they would be matters of grave concern to the "Concerned Citizens." Apparently not, as Captain (Thomas) Harris, (commanding officer) of the 78th Precinct told me [on Dec. 18, when the newspaper was distributed] that the precinct hadn't received even one report of such an incident. Are the "Concerned Citizens" unconcerned or are they delusional? — Howard Grunbaum, Carroll Gardens

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# Engagement ruined

By Deborah Kolben  
The Brooklyn Papers

It was a bittersweet moment for a pair of love birds when a man stopped to propose to his girlfriend on the corner of Calman Plaza West and Clark Street at 1:45 pm on Dec. 28.

After asking for his girlfriend's hand in marriage, the couple placed the ring back into a bag because the band holding the couple was too big.

Perhaps lost in the moment, the couple neglected to keep an eye on their bags. When they turned around to fetch them both the \$5,000 engagement ring and a digital camera were gone, they told police.

**Machine gunner**  
Tsk. What happened to mamas? A pair of lads with a case of the late night — make

## 84/76 Blotters

that early morning — munchies pulled out a machine gun after buying snacks at Atlantic Avenue deli near Henry Street. After paying for their food, one hoodlum pulled a black weapon from his jacket and demanded his money back and then some. "Or I will kill you," the hoodlum told.

The store clerk emptied the register, all \$261 of it, and the pair fled in a black, two-door sedan heading west on Atlantic Avenue.

The incident occurred at 4:20 am on Dec. 28.

**Cranberry thief**  
When a Brooklyn woman packed up and headed for a brief sojourn in the Lone Star

State, her vehicle was left out in the cold.

The motorist parked her car near her apartment on Cranberry Street near Hicks Street on Dec. 23 at 6:15 pm.

When she returned four days later the 1993 Red Toyota Camry was nowhere to be found.

**Menacing figure**  
A man bawling the subway at Pacific Street and Fourth Avenue was held up at 2 am on Christmas Eve.

The victim, 55, resisted the attacker, who pulled out a box cutter and demanded that he hand over his cash.

The would-be crook, 22, left with nothing but was later apprehended by police and charged with menacing, police told.

**Mug at church**  
A man may have been praying for divine intervention when he was held up outside a church

on Gold Street at Concord Street at 8:05 pm on Dec. 28.

The victim, 43, had just loaded up on groceries at a grocery store on Front Street at Washington Street in DUMBO and was headed home when he was stopped by a pair of crooks outside the church.

The miscreants struck the victim over the head with a flute and grabbed his MetroCard, \$7 and an expensive Tag Heuer watch, police said.

**Choke hold**  
A woman walking on Bond Street near Livingston Street was stopped and put in a choke hold by a man walking in the opposite direction at 1:15 pm on Dec. 22.

"Give me your money," the attacker demanded. The victim handed over her wallet with credit cards and \$75 in cash.

**Bank rolled**  
A woman came home to her apartment on Butler Place between Smith and Hoyt streets at 9 am on Dec. 29 to discover that her front door had been forced open and \$700 in coins stolen.

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# Lieberman, others have petitions problems in NY

By Marc Humbert

Associated Press

Sen. Joseph Lieberman has failed to qualify delegate slates for New York's Democratic presidential primary in more than a third of the state's congressional districts, an examination of records showed Thursday.

Other candidates, including former Gen. Wesley Clark, Sen. John Kerry, Rep. Richard Gephardt and Al Sharpton, filed petitions for delegate slates that appear to contain an insufficient number of signatures from Democratic voters to qualify those slates for the March 2 primary ballot, according to a review by the Associated Press.

[The Working Families Party and Lambda Independent Democrats will hold a candidate forum on Sunday, Jan. 11, at 3 p.m. at Camp Friendship, 339 Eighth St. at Fifth Avenue. Local elected officials will represent the Democratic presidential hopefuls.]

When filing petitions, the campaigns must certify that the documents contain the

required number of signatures.

In New York, because there are separate petitions for candidates and for delegate slates and separate voting at the primary for them as well, the bottom-line effect of not qualifying delegate slates is minimal. Filing the slates is, however, a demonstration of a campaign's organizational strength and financial resources, potentially important factors in primaries.

Former Illinois Sen. Carol Moseley Braun is the only candidate who chose not to file pe-

titions to get on the statewide primary ballot in New York. To qualify for the ballot, a candidate must file petitions containing the signatures of at least 5,000 party members.

Among the contenders, only former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean and Sen. John Edwards of North Carolina appear to have qualified delegate slates in each of New York's 29 congressional districts.

Recent independent polls have shown Dean as the front-runner for the nomination in New York.

Lieberman failed to file petitions for delegate slates in 11 of the state's 29 congressional districts, according to campaign aides. The Connecticut senator filed delegate slates in only three of the state's 12 congressional districts north of New York City, according to state Board of Election records.

Kerry's campaign failed to file petitions for delegate slates in eight congressional districts and filed delegate slates in each of the four congressional districts, where a review by the AP found an inadequate number

of signatures.

State Board of Elections spokesman Lee Daghighian said Thursday that given the AP's review, the board might consider eliminating some delegate slates.

Among the other candidates, Sharpton failed to file delegate slates in at least 13 congressional districts, records show; Gephardt failed to file in at least three districts; and Rep. Dennis Kucinich and Clark each failed to file in at least one congressional district. —with Karen Matthews

## Gunpoint mug in park

By Deborah Kolben

The Brooklyn Papers

A man was held up at gunpoint in a Prospect Park gazebo near Ocean and Parkside avenues just after 9 p.m. on Jan. 3. "Give us what you got," the pair of thugs demanded.

### 78 Pct. Blotter

When the victim, 28, told the attackers he didn't have anything they responded by pistol whipping him about the head with a

black handgun before grabbing his wallet, containing \$20, and running out of the park.

### Mommy dearest

While revelers were still ringing in the New Year with champagne toasts, a pugnacious Park Slope couple found another way to celebrate.

Police arrested a 20-year-old woman and charged her with stabbing her boyfriend.

Police say the woman pushed her boyfriend into a chair and used a kitchen knife to stab him, allegedly with the help of her mother, at their home on Fifth Avenue near Bergen Street.

Both the mother and boyfriend were also arrested, police said.

### While he slept

A fearless burglar with an eye for luxury goods broke into an apartment on Prospect Park West and Garfield Place sometime in the early morning hours on Jan. 2.

The bandit slipped in through an unlocked living room window and made his way into the bedroom where the 25-year-old victim was sleeping.

Once inside, the bandit reportedly removed a jewelry box and pocketed an Armani watch

valued at \$300, a gold bracelet valued at \$400, a gold ring and chain, and \$40 in cash.

And just in the case the thief needed a place to store the dough, he also nabbed a \$150 money clip.

### Makes it easy

A Park Slope woman might make it her new year's resolution to never leave her car unattended.

Just hours into 2004, a 22-year-old woman hopped out of her car on Degraw Street and Fifth Avenue and left the keys in the ignition.

Moments later, three men jumped into the black 1995 Honda Civic and fled east on Bergen Street.

### New Year surprise

When a man returned to his home on Berkeley Place between Sixth and Seventh avenues 2:20 p.m. on New Year's Eve, he found his front door slightly ajar.

As he yelled out to alert his wife, two men came running out of the apartment and kept running along Sixth Avenue.

Along with the burglars went two bracelets reportedly worth a combined \$2,300 and a pair of wedding bands, police said.

### After-dinner mug

A woman heading home from a restaurant on Seventh Avenue was mugged just around the corner on 14th Street at 11:45 p.m. on Dec. 28.

The victim, 22, said a man followed her down the block and then stopped her.

"Give me your [expletive] money," demanded the 6-foot-tall attacker, who was sporting a black knit cap.

The victim handed over \$180.

### St. Marks burg

A burglar broke into an apartment at St. Marks Place and Fifth Avenue sometime between noon and 2:30 p.m. on Dec. 29.

After forcing open the front door, the bandit rounded up a DVD player, cordless phone, digital camera, Palm Pilot, gold chain, gold earrings, a college ID and a suitcase, police said.

### Greedy burglar

A midday burglar struck an apartment at Sixth and Flatbush avenues sometime between 9 a.m. and 7:15 p.m. on Dec. 29.

The bandit busted in the front door and made off with a VCR, DVD player and a few Guess shirts.

The bandit fled after trying to unsuccessfully break into another apartment in the same building, police said.

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# Pratt to build artist mega-store on Myrtle

By Deborah Kolben  
The Brooklyn Papers

Brooklyn may be the city's creative hub and home to thousands of artists, but until now it's lacked something crucial. A major art supply store.

Pratt Institute, a world-renowned design school in Clinton Hill, is going to fill that void.

The college will break ground this month on a 15,000-square-foot store on the corner of Myrtle and Emerson avenues that will rival the city's largest art supply stores, such as Pearl Paint in Manhattan.

The new \$2.4 million Pratt facility will offer everything from paint brushes to sketch pads and will also replace the school's cramped bookstore located in the basement of the main building on the Willoughby Street campus.

"It will be one of the most complete art supply stores anywhere in New York City," said Pratt president Tom Schutte, noting the plans at a community meeting in November.

Home to a number of artists and students the store should be a big boost to the community, according to Jennifer Gerend, executive director of the Myrtle Avenue Revitalization Project.

Once a neglected strip that earned the nickname "Murder Avenue," the thoroughfare has undergone major renovations.

"I think it's really hideous."

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## City OKs major Red Hook condominium conversion



Artist rendering from 2002 of condos planned for 160 Imlay St. in Red Hook. The three-story penthouse addition has since been removed from the design.

By Deborah Kolben  
The Brooklyn Papers

Despite vocal community opposition, a proposal to convert an old Red Hook warehouse into luxury condominiums has gotten the go-ahead from the city.

The Board of Standards and Appeals voted 3-1 last month to approve the project even after Community Board 6 voted it down a year ago.

The controversial \$50 million proposal for a former warehouse at 160 Imlay St., between Commerce and Verona streets on the Red Hook waterfront, has fanned the flames of an already heated battle between proponents of industrial versus residential uses in Red Hook ever since it was proposed in August 2002.

Under the approved plans, the top four stories will be converted into 153 apartments while the bottom two must be maintained for the current zoned uses including parking or artist studios, according to Pasquale Pacifico, executive director of the BSA.

But manufacturing partisans are less concerned with the aesthetic details of its approval, namely abandoning the manufacturing potential of the building.

"This is not something we wanted to see happen," said Craig Hammerman, district manager of CB6.

"The introduction of a residential use in an area that is squarely manufacturing and adjacent to an active container port defies sense and reason," Hammerman said, adding that residential development could squeeze out the area's manufacturers.

While the developers originally proposed adding a swimming pool and attaching three stories to the building's existing six — including a jagged-edge

glass penthouse — a scaled-back version of the plan was finally approved by the BSA on Dec. 23.

Built in 1913, as the New York Dock Company, the building handled boat cargo until after World War II. Most recently the space was a book warehouse, according to Bob Liff, a spokesman for the developers.

"It's a big mistake," said Phaedra Thomas, director of the Red Hook-Gowanus Chamber of Commerce, a major supporter of maintaining industry and maritime use along the Red Hook waterfront.

"Just as the business community has gone through an amazing resurgence they are now being faced with real estate pressure that they will not be able to sustain," Thomas said, explaining that introducing high-end condominiums will drive up the value of real estate and consequently lease rates, forcing industry out of the area.

In just the past 12 years, the number of businesses in Red Hook has increased 60 percent, according to Thomas.

On the flip side of the neighborhood housing stance is John McGietrick, a 13-year resident of the area and co-chair of the Red Hook Civic Association.

"I believe this is a good thing for all of Red Hook," McGietrick said, noting that the neighborhood has lost half of its population over the past 40 years.

McGietrick is advocating a mixed-use community. "But we need to make sure it does not become all luxury housing," he added.

Currently, more than half of the neighborhood's residential population lives in public housing.

In order to obtain the variance, the developers had to prove that they were able to leave the space for manufacturing uses and the building was therefore a fi-

nancial hardship.

The developers argued that the building does not have sufficient elevation for loading docks, the ceilings are too low for manufacturing uses, and that it lacks sufficient electricity to power most industrial uses.

Advocates of waterfront industry charged that the property was never seriously marketed for industrial use. And they questioned why the developers also purchased the adjacent property if they already couldn't rent out the other one.

The partnership of associates developing the Imlay Street building includes Industry City Associates, owners of the nearby Bush Terminal, and Bruce Batkin, a Manhattan developer with projects on the Upper West Side and near Wall Street.

Bruce Federstein, a principal owner of Industry City Associates, also sits on the board of the Southwest Brooklyn Industrial Development Corporation, which represents more than 2,300 local businesses.

The organization recently merged with the Red Hook-Gowanus Chamber of Commerce.

The condominiums will be a combination of studios, one- and two-bedrooms, but the developers would not estimate a specific price range for the units.

"They will appeal to those who can't afford Manhattan, but prices somewhat less than in DUMBO," said Bob Liff, spokesman for the developer.

If all goes as planned, construction could begin in a few months and the apartments would hit the market in 2005.

"We think this is going to be good for the community," said Liff, adding that it's been an "exhaustive process."

And it may not be over yet.

Any affected party has 30 days from the time of approval to challenge the BSA decision in court.

## January at Union Temple

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Other Friday evenings, 8:15 pm  
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CityTicket costs \$2.50 and is good only on the day of purchase for single-direction one-way travel that begins and ends within New York City.

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Restrictions apply: for details get a CityTicket brochure at station windows or go to [www.mta.info](http://www.mta.info).

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Construction materials under the Manhattan Bridge.

## BRIDGE...

Continued from page 1

how the archway once looked.

"It's time to give us back our open space," said Webster, who said the community has lived with the construction and "severe ugliness" for the past 20 years.

Those feelings were echoed by Isaac Esterman, a project manager for DUMBO developer David Walentas' Two Trees Management.

"We would like to see more efficient use of the space," said Esterman.

"We understand we put these communities through a lot in terms having to endure our work and we profusely apologize, but by the same token the end result is these

bridges will last for generations," said DOT spokesman Tom Cocola.

The good news, Cocola said, is that the fences will come down when the work is eventually completed.

"They can have the street," Cocola said, referring to the end of the bridge rehabilitation project some years down the road. He could not specify when the project would be completed.

So far, the \$800 million in repairs on the 1,470-foot span, which connects Canal Street in Manhattan to Flatbush Avenue Extension in Brooklyn, has included subway framing, new walkways and bikeways, and seismic retrofitting to protect the bridge in case of earthquakes.

## D'TOWN...

Continued from page 1

and the Metropolitan Business Improvement District.

In addition to developing up to 6.7 million square feet of office space — close to the 5 million square foot lost in the Twin Towers — the plan also allows for 1,000 units of housing and 2,500 parking places.

To make way for the multi-billion dollar development, the plan also allows the city to seize seven acres of land including 130 residential units, a college, and 50 to 60 stores.

Downtown Brooklyn currently has 11 million square feet of office space with just a 2 percent vacancy rate.

Responding to the loss of 21,000 city jobs to New Jersey in the 1990s, the mayor pledged to fund the \$100 million in infrastructure improvements over the next 10 years,

with much of the money coming in the first few years, but the project would still be largely dependent on market conditions and the ability to lure business developers.

The Department of City Planning certified the plans in early December, starting the application through the roughly seven-month Uniform Land Use Review Procedure, which includes public hearings before the community board, borough president, City Planning Commission and City Council.

The full community board will vote at a special meeting on Jan. 28. The board's recommendations must be submitted to City Planning by Feb. 9.

Written comments can also be sent to Community Board 2 at 350 Jay St., eighth floor, Brooklyn, NY 11201.

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# The Brooklyn Papers FAKE!

## Chores & rewards

**Q:** My 13-year-old son and his two friends seem like they are becoming grateful. For example, I offered a pizza for lunch if they would move a piece of furniture, and they bargained for a ride to a video game store. I said no deal, so they went with the pizza."

**A:** The boys sound like brats, right?  
"A pizza for moving one piece of furniture? My kids would have had to move the whole room around, including sweeping and dusting," says a mother of four from Bridgeport, Conn. "What happened to kids actually working to earn rewards? They don't learn to be grateful when they get paid some way each time they help out."

Don't bribe kids to get chores done, several parents say. It's costly not just in terms of money, but bargaining breeds laziness and greed. When everything is linked to handouts, kids come to expect something in return for the smallest deed.

"When did parents become such wusses? Tell your son to get his butt in gear and do things for people," says Veronica Breckheimer. "It's called being a good neighbor and friend. You have the ability to make your son do what is necessary to learn the lessons of life."

A mother of two sons, ages 13 and 16, says this Ohio mother's problem began when she started bargaining. "This is an example of entitlement at its worst. Her son and his friends should help move the furniture as a matter of good citizenship, at the least. If the mother then chooses to reward them to lunch, that's up to her. Unless something is done to renege their attitudes, it's just

### Parent-to-Parent

By Debra Flager

another case of more people about to enter the workforce with expectations that they are due, rather than what they can do to contribute."

Now for the defense, from the three teenagers. They say they were just asking for what they wanted: a ride to the video game store. After moving and taking family and neighborhood lawns, they were eager to buy one newly released game each. But no parent had been willing to make a special trip to the store in the previous week.

They say "moving a piece of furniture" was beyond the routine, required them to finish raking a yard, walk several blocks to one boy's home, and carry a heavy piece of furniture that had been discarded on a curb. They each have chores at home and do volunteer work, and figured it was worth a shot to try to get a ride to the store. They got a "no" answer and left it at that.

"It's typical for kids to barter," says Jeff D. Opyke, author of "Love & Money" (Wiley, John & Sons, Inc., 2003). "This is a case of kids will be kids. They set the gold standard and ask for what they want."

Alice Sampson, an assistant professor at North Georgia College and State University, planned to use this mother's question in a classroom management course. "Don't offer pizza in the first place," Sampson says. "We need to get our kids to do what they need to do for the sake of doing it."

That goes for the routine chores as well, she and Opyke agree, that children need to do as good citizens of a household.

Reader Tom Kelly says he and his wife don't reward their three sons, ages 8, 6 and 2, for doing basic jobs around the house.

"They now understand that, as part of the family sharing our home, it's in their best interest to help keep things running smoothly," Kelly says. "That in itself is a reward, especially as we all gain more time to spend together. They really got the point when we'd explain that we couldn't play Candy Land because we had to pick up their toys again."

For bigger contributions that are freely offered, or for exceptional acts of kindness, good manners or study effort, the children win points on a simple kitchen marker board for prizes, Kelly says.

If your child wants to up the ante, then you up the ante as well, says a mother from Dallas. Ask them to do more work for you.

**Can you help?**  
"Do you think allowances and chores should be connected or separate? I think pay should be doctored for misbehavior. What about amounts? All my friends have different approaches," a mother writes. If you have tips or a question, call our toll-free hotline any time at (800) 827-1092 or e-mail us at [p2pinfo@aol.net](mailto:p2pinfo@aol.net).

## Divorce can cause separation anxiety

Dear John: I'm going through a divorce, and I'm having a very hard time dealing with the separation from my kids. They want me to stop the divorce and to patch things up with my wife. My son is so angry that he says I don't love him. He's never related, while my daughter keeps asking me when I'm coming home to stay. This is tearing me up inside. How should I handle it?

—Always Their Dad  
Dear Always Their Dad: This is one of the hardest parts about divorce: helping your children understand why it has happened and reassuring them that they remain — and will always be — an integral part of your life. This should be explained in heart-to-heart talks with them, perhaps best done one on one, since their ages vary and they have different questions and concerns about your divorce.

It is possible that their biggest fear is that they were in some way to blame for the breakup. Make sure you put that concern to rest as soon as possible. During and after the

### MEN ARE FROM MARS WOMEN ARE FROM VENUS

By John Gray

divorce, spend as much time with them as possible. Part of the divorce proceedings will include custody rights. Hopefully, your ex-wife will see the importance of this for them, and she will be open to the idea of keeping you involved. As long as you continue to be loving and supportive of their issues, the children will eventually come to accept this change in your life and theirs.

...

Dear John: I am my husband's second wife, and I have been married to him for 46 years. He was married to his first wife for nine years but was separated from her for two of those nine years. Whenever we are at a family gathering, his mother and sisters always talk about her without any consideration of my feelings — and she's not even alive anymore! I feel this shows little respect for me. Unfortunately, my husband feels there is nothing wrong with this, so he does not say anything. Am I being too sensitive? —Always No. 2  
Dear No. 2: Enough is enough already. Ask your husband once again to have a talk with his family about their lack of consideration in this matter. You have been a couple for 46 years, so your re-

quest is more than reasonable. If he refuses to broach it with his family, you should not feel you have to accompany him to family outings that will make you feel uncomfortable, so pass with a clear conscience. His ex has been laid to rest. It's time that the topic of their marriage be laid to rest with his family as well.

...  
Dear John: For about three years now, I have been seeing "Tim," a married man. I am 22, and he is twice my age. He is now separated from his wife, and they are getting a divorce. In fact, he moved eight hours away from her, which makes him closer to me. For the past week, she has been staying with him. I was worried because I thought he would fall for her again, but they fought the entire time. She goes back home tomorrow, so now we can resume seeing each other. He says he wants to get married and have a family. Still, I wonder if he is ready to be married again.

...  
Dear Cold Feet: You are wise to reconsider the longevity of this relationship, for two reasons. First of all, immediately jumping into another relationship after his divorce gives him no time to examine the problems he encountered in his previous relationship or to assess his desires for the future. If you take a break from each other, it may save you future heartache.

While your age difference may not seem so great now, it will become more of an issue as you go through many maturing changes. He will go through many changes as well, particularly as it pertains to his health and stamina as he enters his 50s.

John Gray is the author of "Men Are From Mars, Women Are From Venus." If you have a question, write John by e-mail at: [www.marsvenusadvice.com](mailto:www.marsvenusadvice.com).

## Rudy not surprised by high terror alert

Associated Press

Former mayor Rudolph Giuliani said Wednesday he was not surprised that the nation remains on high alert more than two years after the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks, and said the situation was "not even as bad or as intense as I thought it would be."

Giuliani said the United States remained relatively safe compared with nations such as Israel, which he visited last month as a consultant on a traffic safety project.

There, he said, "you go into a shopping mall, it's like going

into an airplane in the United States."

When asked why the public is not informed of specific security threats, Giuliani said revealing information could compromise government intelligence.

"It's fair, but very frustrating," he said. "Sometimes there is no more information, that's the really frustrating part."

Giuliani, who now heads his own consulting firm, spoke on NBC's "Today Show" Wednesday.



Rudy Giuliani

## BRUCE ALMIGHTY...



Unshaded area in midst of gray (above) indicates Newswalk condo and surrounding block (along Dean Street between Sixth and Carlton avenues), which is excluded from arena plan.

Continued from page 1  
proposed plans. "We're happy to be a part of it."

Asked if Ratner had approached Boylmeelgreen prior to announcing the plans, Kim said, "They're friends, when people are friends there is no clear date."

Ratner spokesman Joe Deplascio declined to comment on whether Boylmeelgreen was involved in the arena development, but said that Newswalk was given no special consideration.

"That square area is not included because in the most current scheme it isn't needed for the overall development," Deplascio said.

While Newswalk may be spared, Boylmeelgreen does stand to lose other properties.

But rather than being a detriment, that property offers a "significant opportunity," said Kim, who added that the company would be involved in the development.

Councilwoman Letitia James, a fervent opponent of the arena, believes the Newswalk block — between Sixth and Carlton avenues — was "gerrymandered" out of the proposal, she said "because of the relationship between the developers."

"There exist certain courtesies between the developers," said James, whose district includes Fort Greene and Prospect Heights.

Far from just claiming blight, the eminent domain takings would include other developments far less fortunate than Newswalk.

The Atlantic Art Building, a striking, nine-story condominium at 636 Pacific St. that was converted from a storage facility just last year, would be knocked down to make way for the arena.

The penthouse apartment, featured last year in *Wallpaper*, a British design magazine, was described as "the foremost example in the minimalist orientation of a design for the urban life."

Just down the block, the 22 apartments in the former A.G. Spaulding building, where ironically, the company that manufactured the official basketball of the NBA was once quartered — would also be razed to make way for the arena.

On Thursday night, residents gathered at the Spaulding building, 24 Sixth Ave., to meet with an attorney specializing in eminent domain.

Ever since Ratner announced the project in December, a group of vocal opponents have banded together to fight these plans.

Ratner, according to reports this week, has a leading bid of \$310 million to buy the two-time NBA Eastern Conference champions.

New Jersey Sen. Jon Corzine and developer Charles Kushner are also competing to buy the team and keep them in New Jersey. Ratner must also secure the



A model of Bruce Ratner's planned arena, designed by famed architect Frank Gehry.

air rights from the Metropolitan Transit Authority to build over the Atlantic yards. He currently does not own any of the land upon which the project would be built.

Protestors charge that the plan would displace more than 1,000 residents and businesses and would require the state to take approximately 70 buildings by eminent domain.

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# An historic New Utrecht church needs mega bucks

By Jotham Soderstrom  
The Brooklyn Papers

Despite a crusade that began seven years ago, activists fighting to rehabilitate one of Brooklyn's oldest churches say that

much of the pricey restoration work needed to save the Bensonhurst structure is beyond their means. And unless they can raise an estimated \$1.8 million, preservationists fear that the 175-year-old New Utrecht Re-

formed Church could face the same fate as its one-time neighbor, the Van Pelt Manor, a 266-year-old Dutch home that was razed more than 50 years ago.

"I'm not worried about it falling," said Susan Haney, vice president of the church conservancy, or governing board. "I'm just worried about raising the money. I just want this to be a functioning church again."

The extent of the damage to the church on 18th Avenue at 84th Street was first discovered in 1997, when parishioners began raising money to fix the bell tower, which over the years has been eroded by rain, wind and pigeons that swoop through from the top. The bell has been chimed to mark the death of every American president from George Washington to Richard Nixon, said Robert Buono, president of the Friends of Historic New Utrecht, which has raised \$17,000 for church restoration projects.

Buono's group was founded in 1995 to push for landmark status for the church's parish house and cemetery, which was granted in 1997.

Though more than \$270,000 was raised for the bell restoration, the list of repairs soon mushroomed to include work on the roof, walls and ceiling, which have been worn and cracked over the years. In November, the sanctuary was closed for the first time in 135 years so that scaffolding could be placed along the walls to hold the original plaster in place and keep the room from caving in during winter.

"We just shook our heads and wondered if this thing would ever open again," Buono said, describing his thoughts the first time he looked at the scaffold-shrouded sanctuary three months ago. "My worst fear is that it won't."

Kenneth Barricklo, the architect working on the project, said he expects the sanctuary to be closed through most of the year while wooden trusses are reinforced with steel beams. Mass, meanwhile, is being held at the parish across the street, as are meetings for Alcoholics Anonymous and a Boy Scouts troop.

"Fortunately, we discovered the condition before it got worse and worse," said Barricklo, who specializes in historic preservation. "Even now, it's in active movement, but we caught it in a timely way before anything worse happened."

The congregation was formed in 1677, but until the church was built, congregants met at nearby farmhouses or traveled to Flatbush, home at the time to Brooklyn's only church.



The Rev. Terry Troia in front of the New Utrecht Reformed Church in 2000.

In 1700, however, the Dutch Reformed church was built on a plot of land on 16th Avenue at 84th Street with stones shipped from the Netherlands. When that structure was knocked down and rebuilt at its current site in 1828, the original stones were used.

The church has been visited by the likes of George Washington and the Van Pelt family, who 45 years earlier erected the nearby Liberty Pole to celebrate the retreat of British troops from New York Bay. In 1753, a flag was raised at the same spot where the Liberty Pole still stands. Since that time, the flagpole has been replaced six times. The current pole is from the 1939 World's Fair in Flushing, Queens. The flagpole was granted landmark

status along with the New Utrecht Reformed Church building in 1967.

Last year, Councilman Vincent Gentile secured \$50,000 from the city's capital budget, which is expected to be available to the church in the coming months. "I used to find them when I was in the [state] senate so I've known them for a long time," said Gentile. "If there's more help I can give them I'd certainly like to on this year's city budget."

Buono said that Assemblyman Peter Abbate had committed to matching \$250,000 in funding through the state if the preservationists could first raise that much for the first phase of the project, which is the bell tower. Abbate said that was not the case.

"They have to get their act together," said the assemblyman, explaining that the church would have to raise at least \$1.2 million to show that the project was nearly fully funded. "They have to come up with a way to complete the project. If they can come up with \$1.55 million, I'll help them with the rest."

State Sen. Marty Golden, meanwhile, sent a letter to state Parks Commissioner Bernadette Castro, asking for funding. "We're fighting to find dollars to keep it here in the community," said Golden, who requested that \$100,000 be earmarked through the state Senate for repairs to the church. "I'd hate to see it destroyed."

Abbate has also requested \$100,000 in funding in the Assembly.

The electronics store P.C. Richards & Son donated \$10,000 last year.

Buono said he sent letters requesting aid to both New York senators, Hillary Clinton and Charles Schumer, in the spring, but has not heard back from them. He said he spoke to both area congressmen, Vito Fossella and Jerrold Nadler, but no federal money has yet been allocated.

Despite that help, Buono said that fundraising efforts have been frustrating at best.

"The church itself has provided service for the community for 327 years," said Buono. "Now that they're looking for help, everyone keeps saying how important it is, but nobody's doing anything. That's what's gotten me a little bit annoyed."

"Unless we get Golden, [State Sen. Seymour] Lachman and Abbate to come to our aid, to help us, we're going to lose another piece of history."

## BOARDS...

Continued from page 1

institute the changes, but as of yet, no deadlines have been posted for applicants interested in any of the positions.

That and other issues affecting District 20 will likely be discussed at a meeting at PS 204, on 15th Avenue at 80th Street, on Feb. 4, at 7 p.m.

Under the new initiative, members of the councils will evaluate the regional superintendents. Zoning lines submitted by the regional superintendents would also be voted on by the body. But the new councils would no longer have a role in budget planning, supervisory appointments or curriculum building, duties that used to be essential to the school boards.

Carlo Scissura, vice president of School Board 20, characterized the new bodies as advisory boards whereas he called the old system, "actual educational boards."

"Not only did you evaluate the superintendents, but you essentially hired them," he said. "But now the chancellor doesn't even have to listen to the panel because it's the chancellor and the mayor who are appointing the regional superintendents."

The head of the District 20 Presidents Council, which comprises the PTA presidents in the district, worried that zoning, for one, would be too big a responsibility for some parents.

"You're asking PTA presidents to vote on zoning issues," said Nancy Gasprino, president of the District 20 Presidents Council. "I don't know how many parents are going to be up to that position."

Others worry that the councils will leave minority parents in the lurch. Critics contend that schools without parent associations, often those with a heavy minority population, would suffer from the changes.

"My feeling was that with these new councils they did not represent the minority as well," said Scissura. "The Department of Education has to make sure that this information [about application procedures] goes out to everyone. You don't want 11 or 12 white people on the board."

Park Slope Councilman Bill DeBlasio, a former School Board 15 member, said, "It's possible that the replacement entities, these new education councils, will provide parents with an effective mechanism to make their voices heard. But it is still not clear how much input they will have."

District 15, now Region 8, includes Cobble Hill, Carroll Gardens, Red Hook, Park Slope and Sunset Park.

## BOUTON...

Continued from page 1

WCBS in New York City. He made a brief return to the sport with a knuckleball in the late '70s, helped create Big League Chew — shredded bubble gum in a pouch that serves as an alternative to chewing tobacco — and now tours the country as a motivational speaker.

When the Massachusetts resident returns to the Big Apple next week he hopes to generate attention to the cause and show the similarities between the Pittsfield and Brooklyn battles.

"In many respects it's the same story," Bouton said from his home in Eggenston, Mass., just after making several television appearances to talk about the recent gambling confessions of Pete Rose.

"Wealthy business men are looking to have taxpayers fund their building of these arenas. If these stadiums were good investments businessmen would build them. But taxpayers would build these stadiums because owners don't have to," Bouton said.

Last month, Bruce Ratner — principal owner of Forest City Ratner, which most recently developed a planned new headquarters building for the New York Times in Manhattan — unveiled the plans to build a sweeping Frank Gehry-designed arena complex including 17 office and residential towers at the intersection of Atlantic and Flatbush avenues at the crossroads of five neighborhoods.

Ratner is currently in the midst of a heated bidding war to purchase the New Jersey Nets and bring them to the Brooklyn arena, which would only get built if he gets the team.

While Ratner originally announced that only a hundred people would have their homes taken by eminent domain, a power of the government to seize property for public use, opponents put the number closer to 1,000.

Among their ranks are famed sculptor Louise Bourgeois, a violinmaker, three luxury condominium buildings, two homeless shelters, a beloved prohibition-era bar, and a feeble elderly couple who say they would not be able to survive the move.

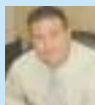
"This is going on in every community in the country," Bouton said.

Bouton will be speaking at the Hanson Place Methodist Church, at the corner of Hanson Place and St. Felix Street, at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 13. On Wednesday, Jan. 14, Bouton will lead a walking tour of the condemned blocks along Pacific Street at 11 a.m. and will be signing copies of "Foul Ball" at the Community Bookstore at 143 Seventh Ave. from noon until 2 p.m.

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# BROOKLYN Bites

## Neighborhood Dining Guide

This week:  
**ATLANTIC AVENUE**

### Bacchus

409 Atlantic Ave. at Bond Street, (718) 852-1572 (AmEx) Entrees: \$8-\$18.  
Heavy truck traffic may trouble Bacchus, but that doesn't dampen the bountiful atmosphere inside this cozy French wine bar and bistro in Boerum Hill, opened by co-owners Redha Boutaghou and Bruno Landis. The dining room is quieter and the tree-lined back patio is romantic. The menu is standard French fare, with omelets, quiches and croquettes at lunch, and steak au poivre, grilled tuna, lamb, pork tenderloin, rabbit, duck, coq au vin, monkfish and more for dinner. Young wines dominate the cellar, although some vintages date back to 1986. Brunch is served Saturdays and Sundays. Open daily.

### Bedouin Tent

405 Atlantic Ave. at Bond Street, (718) 852-5555 (Cash only) Entrees: \$3-\$10.  
Despite its name change, this family-owned restaurant has made Atlantic Avenue its home for the past 13 years. Before Bedouin Tent, the Demis family ran their eatery as "Moustache." Winner of the 2001 "Mom and Pop Business of the Year Award" awarded by former Borough President Howard Golden, Bedouin Tent is known far and wide for their appetizing food and friendly prices. Signature dishes include lambain, a Middle Eastern lamb pizza, and the harira, a Moroccan stew. For dessert, there's the basbousa — semolina cake served with yogurt and honey. Garden seats available. Open daily.

### Brawta Caribbean Cafe

347 Atlantic Ave. at Hoyt Street, (718) 855-5515, www.brawta.com; at Park Slope at 447 Seventh Ave. at 15th Street, (718) 788-4680 (AmEx, DC, Disc, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$9.50-\$20.  
This small West Indian restaurant offers flavorful dishes in huge portions. Try the spicy curried coconut shrimp. Brawta is \$10.00, but don't forget about their fresh-squeezed juices like homemade fruit punch or pineapple. Outdoor seating is available in the summer. The Park Slope outpost is takeout only. Open daily.

### Brooklyn Grill

320 Atlantic Ave. at Hoyt Street, (718) 797-3324 (AmEx, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$10-\$18.  
It's a bit early in the year to recommend a place for its patio, but that's just one of the many reasons to check out this Boerum Hill favorite. Chef Chris Shea's new menu introduces dishes like braised lamb shanks with garlic polenta and rosemary; just-chilled pot medallions with Southwest-style potato croquettes; and shrimp and saffron risotto served in a tomato, shellfish broth. There's a small, but highly praised wine list. Their brunch and desserts — pumpkin creme brulee — should not be missed. Open daily.

### Jubb's Delicatessa

Below Tripoli Restaurant, 156 Atlantic Ave. at Clinton Street, (718) 596-3810, www.jubbsdelicatessa.com, Entrees: TBD.  
Opening soon, this "lifelong restaurant" will offer a menu of raw, vegetarian foods and drinks. A collaborative effort between Tripoli Restaurant owner Mohamed Salem and Dr. David Jubb, the new eatery will open in the newly refurbished downstairs dining room of Tripoli, with hallways painted with vibrant murals and floors and walls lined with good enhancing stores, according to Salem. Jubb also operates the Jubb's Cell Regeneration Clinic in the East Village and maintains that his Lifefood restaurants offer "uncooked food prepared in a way that retains its life force."

### Meson Flamenco

135 Atlantic Ave. at Henry Street, (718) 625-7177 (AmEx) Entrees: \$12-\$32.  
Owner Pepe Canto opened this pan-Spanish restaurant a decade ago with chef Paco Mateo. Meson Flamenco serves southern tapas (appetizers eaten at the bar) as well as traditional Catalan delicacies such as calçots, a kind of blue cheese. Flamenco dance and guitar is performed.

★ = Full review available at



Abbreviation Key: AmEx= American Express, DC= Diner's Club, Disc= Discover Card, MC= MasterCard, Visa= Visa Card



Jubb's Delicatessa co-owner David Jubb with model-author Carol Alt at the restaurant's preview party in November.

formed Friday and Saturday nights in this intimate restaurant. There are two shows, at 9:30 pm and 11:30 pm.

### Moroccan Star

148 Atlantic Ave. at Clinton Street, (718) 643-3042 (AmEx, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$7.95-\$10.95.  
This North African restaurant with a Brooklyn accent has been a neighborhood favorite for 35 years. Chef Ali Qaid serves top-notch Moroccan, French and Middle Eastern cuisine. His motto: "If it's not fresh, we do not serve it." Meat and seafood lovers will fall for the menu of escargot, kebabs, steaks and Moroccan-style bluefish. Luu has spread too; a recent visit overheard guests claiming they drove 50 miles to dine here. Open daily.

### Shinjuku Japanese Cuisine

177 Atlantic Ave. at Clinton Street, (AmEx, Disc, MC, V) (718) 935-1300. Entrees: \$9.95 to \$45.95 for the "Love Boat" for two.  
While the decor is "Bohemian industrial," according to manager Jack Luu, the Shinjuku menu has all of the traditional Japanese favorites and a few surprises. For two big eaters, Luu recommends the "Love Boat": 10 pieces of sushi, 18 slices of sashimi, one maki roll selected by the chef and the Alaskan salmon roll plus miso soup and salad.

The wine list of Shinjuku, which opened in July 2003, is small but growing; and the six sakes offered include one that is "slightly sweet, unfettered and milky white" and another that's "oaky with a cedar cast." Luu can accommodate parties up to 12 behind the screens of the private tatami room, the perfect place for a cruise on the Love Boat. Open for lunch and dinner daily.

### Soul Spot

302 Atlantic Ave. at Smith Street, (718) 596-9933 (AmEx, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$4.95-\$12.95.  
Banum Turay and Chef Yaya Coessey opened this Cobble Hill Caribbean-influenced Southern-style soul food spot last June. Coessey, who says he spent five years at Soul Fixins in Manhattan, gives a long list of signature dishes which includes meatloaf, barbecue beef ribs, fried chicken, baked salmon, macaroni and cheese, collards, candied yams and peach cobbler. At the menu says, "Makes you never wanna cook at home." Open daily.

### Tripoli Restaurant

156 Atlantic Ave. at Clinton Street, (718) 596-5800 (AmEx, Disc, DC, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$7-\$14.50.  
Enter this Atlantic Avenue landmark and you'll swear you're skimming the south shores of ancient Lebanon. Maybe that's a stretch, but an impressive mural of Tripoli's coast bedecked the interior of this Lebanese eatery, now in its 30th year. Tripoli Restaurant is commendable for its "Sheik al M'hidi" or sautéed eggplant served with ground lamb, yogurt and mint, and its "Selek B'toubia," or black-eyed peas and celery with sautéed onions and coriander. Open daily.

### Waterfront Ale House

155 Atlantic Ave. at Henry Street, (718) 522-3794, www.waterfrontalehouse.com, (AmEx, MC, DC, Visa) Entrees: \$10.95-\$20.95.  
Since 1989, the Waterfront Ale House has embraced its pub status, offering 18 beers on tap and 50 to 60 different bottles. But with the help of local chef Jim Takacs, they are able to go well beyond the usual bar fare. There are the obligatory chicken wings and fried calamari, but also try more sophisticated choices like venison and black bean chili with tequila-cilantro cream or a burger made from Kobe beef. Owner Sam Barberi is a barbecue maven (all meats are smoked in-house), so don't miss the fabulous barbecue chicken served with sweet potato fries.

# Hidden gem

Williamsburg's *Io* restaurant serves up Southern Italian classics off the beaten path

By Tina Barry  
for The Brooklyn Papers

There are two things, three if I include the waterfront, that you must disregard when considering a trip to Io, a new southern Italian restaurant in Williamsburg.

The first is its location on Kent Avenue, a stretch of road so desolate that a coyote sighting wouldn't come as a surprise.

The second (women pay attention) is the restaurant's bar area, the first room you step into when entering Io. The long bar is lined with guys, in hard hats or shiny suits, who stared so intently that I wondered if my coat was on backwards.

The third is that waterfront, a design that resembles a collaboration between LM, Pei and the third-grade class at PS 124. If viewed from the top, the waterfront is high-tech — a stream of water cascading down an aluminum sheet. The base of the waterfront ends in a stone-covered wishing well of sorts lined with what appears to be a green-and-white kiddie pool.

Once you've said, "Where the hell is this place?" 10 times, and ignored the glare of the front room patrons, you'll have a fine dinner in an elegant room with accommodating service. Ruby-colored, handbeaded walls hung with Botero knock-offs of pre-Atkins diet couples, big gilt mirrors, and a huge window with a glamorous view of Manhattan seem worlds apart from the entrance.

Couples from Queens who, according to chef and co-owner John Mancuso, "grew up in Williamsburg and want to visit the old neighborhood," and "plenty of people from the area who just want good food" fill the room.

Mancuso, who cooked at the Waterfront's Edges, a seafood restaurant in Long Island City, before opening Tuscany Restaurant on Atlantic, then Io (pronounced EEE-oh and means "I" or "me" in Italian) last June, serves a menu of dependable Italian dishes, many of them beautifully executed, with a few twists that can make a good but predictable meal exciting.

Mancuso's shrimp cappuccino is a clever take on the drink. A deep glass goblet is filled with velvety, rich, deeply flavored pink shrimp bisque topped with a thick head of foam. A huge grilled shrimp balances on the rim of the glass. It was fun to drink — the foam serving as an airy foil to the



Io co-owner and chef John Mancuso serves up a classic Italian menu in his Williamsburg restaurant as well as inventive dishes like the shrimp cappuccino, at right.

thick soup — and the bisque tasted more of good shellfish stock than cream.

Order a few appetizers and your table will look like a convention of antenated caterers. Mancuso has a penchant for frying angel hair pasta then using the browned strands as double-spiked garnishes. Beneath the decorations, you'll find an uneven medley of starters.

Maryland crab cakes were filled with sweet crabmeat. A drizzle of tart, spicy, roasted red pepper aioli brightens the flavor. Lightly fried calamari and a fresh, mildly seasoned marinara sauce won't disappoint anyone, but I'd leave the flavorless roasted garlic aioli on the

side of the plate. A bland portobello mushroom stuffed with spinach and fresh mozzarella and then wrapped in puff pastry is enhanced by an aromatic mushroom demi-glace.

Other starters were a crisp, authentic Caesar salad, with a garlicky, anchovy-infused dressing. I would have enjoyed the Tuscan salad — a mix of tangy artichoke hearts, crisp asparagus, endive, piglioli nuts and a pungent Gorgonzola — more if its ingredients hadn't been reduced to a slaw.

My eyelids get heavy the minute I



see lobster ravioli, especially lobster ravioli in a pink sauce, on a menu. I've had countless mediocre renditions. But Mancuso's house-made lobster ravioli was wondrous. The pasta that surrounds a chunky filling of lobster meat is nearly transparent. His pink sauce, with its bits of smoky prosciutto, was spoon-licking delicious yet doesn't overpower the clean, sweetness of the lobster.

Cavatappi, a long, corkcore pasta, tossed with soft squares of tender eggplant was a pleasing harmony of smoky, melting mozzarella and fresh tomato sauce with the pronounced anise flavor of basil.

I've sworn off sweet potatoes since Thanksgiving, but the entrance of grilled pork tenderloin with sweet potato hash renewed my interest. The meat was soft and sweet, with a charcoal scent, and the sweet potatoes — more mush than hash — were topped with caramelized onions and a syrupy reduction of meat juices.

The St. Peter's fish (also known as John Dory), however, was dull — too delicate to get much of a kick from its bed of under-seasoned risotto. A sauce of smoked tomatoes added nothing more than a spot of color to the plate.

It's no surprise that every diner sitting near our table ordered dessert. Mancuso's creations are beautifully plated and, with the exception of a

slice of heavy cheesecake theatrically thronged atop a glass brick, exceptional examples of both traditional and more innovative Italian fare.

A slice of pound cake sautéed in butter was crisp on the outside, its center puffy — more like an angel food cake. A scoop of house-made vanilla bean ice cream melted over the slice and a pretty star, drawn with chocolate sauce on the plate, added a touch more sweetness. Airy, crusty, hot and cold — who knew a slice of pound cake could be such a pleasure?

The tiramisu was egggy with an edge of bitter coffee and a subtle hint of brandy. Creme brulee wore a veneer of browned sugar as thin as lace, and an apple cobbler with a crumb topping was lighter than most, with the sweetness of the apples brightened with lemon zest.

At a nearby table, a man made a confession to his wife and another couple that might have shocked the aforementioned men on bar stools: He said "Queer Eye for the Straight Guy" changed his life.

"I shave with the grain now, not against it," he said pointing to his neck. The women at the table exchanged themselves and headed for the bar.

While they were gone, the men gobbled up two desserts meant for four. What would the Fab Five say about that?

# Rolling in dough

On Smith Street you gotta have a good pizza.

In November, Alan Harding, along with partners (and brothers) Jim and Paul Mamary, opened their latest version of nostalgia-with-a-twist restaurants — LaRosa & Son, a mom-and-pop-style pizza joint with better lighting at 98 Smith St.

The three, who also own Smith Street's Patios, Union Street's Schnack and the LaRosa-adjacent Pacifico, around the corner on Pacific Street, have one-upped the doughy neighborhood pies with thin-crust versions, and added sundried tomatoes, arugula and mushroom topping roundup. Plain, pepperoni and red onion with zucchini slices are pictured at left.

And, yes, you can buy it by the slice.

Diners can sit at the red-and-white checkered, cloth-covered tables, under the vintage soda pop signs and old Life magazine photos while they eat retro favorites like calzones, chicken cacciatore and eggplant parmigiana.

There's a cheese ravioli on the menu, too, but Harding and company have dressed it up for the locals with roasted garlic and portobello mushrooms. One more thing they have that you won't find in the old neighborhood: a wine list and a well-stocked bar.

So Schmuck on that!

LaRosa & Sons (on Smith Street between Atlantic Avenue and Pacific Street in Boerum Hill) accepts cash only. Entrees: \$8.75-\$10.50. Lunch and dinner are served seven days a week. For more information, call (718) 935-0545.

— Tina Barry

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# Long Faures

*Bargemusic presents lengthy Faure works that are among pinnacles of classical music*

By Kevin Filippski  
for The Brooklyn Papers

Gabriel Faure, featured in several Bargemusic concerts in the coming weeks, is a consistently underrated composer.

The usual reason trotted out is that Faure (1845-1924) — best known for his many songs and chamber music works — was a "minor" composer because he worked mostly in small forms. (His lone attempt at a symphony was aborted, and his lone opera, "Penelope," while containing much gorgeous music, isn't sufficiently dramatic enough to hold the stage, even in Faure's native France.)

How to rectify Faure's unfair ranking among great composers? For those of us who consider him one of the preeminent composers of both the 19th and 20th centuries, the answer is simple: constantly bring his music to everyone's attention. And there's no place better to start than with three of his very best chamber works, which will be performed at Bargemusic this

month and next in a trio of enticing programs.

The center of Faure's musical output was the piano. Not only were dozens of his wonderful songs composed for voice and piano, but nearly all of his chamber music involved the keyboard. He composed barcaroles, impromptus and nocturnes for solo piano; violin and cello sonatas; a pi-

ano trio; two piano quartets and two piano quintets — indeed, only his very last work, his lone String Quartet, was piano-free.

The Faure works scheduled for Bargemusic are among the greatest of any composer in three very distinct forms — the piano trio, the piano quartet and the violin sonata. Faure's D-minor Piano Trio, his lone incursion into this genre, was composed when he was 77. As usual with Faure, the grace and subtlety with which he balances the three instruments has few rivals, and the outpouring of memorable melodies — from the first movement's lively opening, through the Andantino's slow elegance, to the



Rare programs: Composer Gabriel Faure (1845-1924), painted by John Singer Sargent, will be one of the featured composers in three week-ends of concerts at Bargemusic.

finale's stately finish — is simply breathtaking.

The Piano Trio will be performed Jan. 15 and Jan. 16 by an ensemble consisting of pianist Marija Stroke, cellist Eric Jacobson and violinist Curtis Macomber; along with violinist Hsin-Yun Huang, they will also perform works by Schubert, Dvorak and Ernest Dohmany.

Faure's C-minor Piano Quartet, composed in 1880 and revised in 1884, finds a youthful composer at the height of his powers, its four classically structured movements running the gamut from vigor to the most willful delicacy. The opening Allegro is one of Faure's grandest move-

ments, and the entire quartet has a symphonic sweep that puts to bed critical carping that Faure was hemmed in by smaller forms.

The Aspen Ensemble will perform the quartet Jan. 24 and Jan. 25, along with works by Mozart, Bach and David Schiff.

Faure's first Violin Sonata, in A Major, may be his most popular chamber work. Composed when he was 30 — the earliest Faure work on the Bargemusic programs — it has rarely fallen out of favor with the best musicians, and just recently the superb violinist Gil Shaham made it the centerpiece of his Canary Classics recording, "The Faure Album,"

along with the Piano Trio.

Violinist Peter Zazovsky and pianist Doris Stevenson will play the sonata Feb. 21 and Feb. 22, along with cellist Ole Akahoshi and violinist Jesse Levine, they will also perform Beethoven and a Dvorak Piano Quartet.

Music of such passion and intensity can only spring from a composer of like temperament, and Faure seemed to pour his very soul into every composition. He always made every note count, and hearing these three works — two from early in his career, and one in its late stages — is a lesson in the advantages of fastidiousness and brevity.

That said, none of these works is short — the trio clocks in at about 20 minutes, the quartet at about 30 and the violin sonata at about 23 — but they all operate under the principle that no note could be subtracted or added without destroying the sublime architecture of the whole. And that was Faure's greatest achievement: No matter what forms he worked in, his songs, solo piano works, chamber pieces and orchestral works all have a clarity and sureness of purpose that brings to mind another, vastly different composer, Mozart. There is no higher praise.

As Faure's music in concert is a rarity, so too — equally unfortunate — are new recordings of his music. In addition to Shaham's new disc, there's a Hyperion Records release of what are, to these ears, Faure's greatest achievements: the D-minor piano quintet (composed in 1906) and the C-minor piano quintet (composed in 1921), performed by the ensemble Domus and violinist Anthony Marwood. Extremely muscular and musically astounding, these quintets belie their status as "late" works with a vibrancy that's astonishingly youthful in sound.

At any age, Faure is a master worth hearing.

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# Where to GO

Compiled  
by Susan  
Rosenthal

## SAT, JAN 10

### OUTDOORS AND TOURS

**GREEN-WOOD CEMETERY:** Peter Nash lectures on his new book "Baseball Legends of Brooklyn's Green-Wood Cemetery." Slide-show presentation and story-telling about baseball pioneers. 1 pm, Fifth Avenue and 25th Street. (718) 768-7300. Free.

**METRO TOUR:** Mauricio Lorence hosts a walking tour of Brooklyn Heights, Ft. Greene and Clinton Hill. \$25. 2 pm to 3 pm. Meet at Marriott Hotel, 333 Adams St. (718) 789-0430.

**TREE RECYCLING:** Brooklyn Botanic Garden and Green-Wood Cemetery invite you to let them mulch your Christmas tree. Take the mulch or leave it for community gardens. 11 am - 3 pm. Green-Wood Cemetery, Fifth Avenue at 25th Street entrance. (718) 623-7241. Free.

### PERFORMANCE

**BARGE MUSIC:** presents a chamber music concert of all Beethoven. \$35. 7:30 pm. Fulton Ferry Landing. (718) 624-2083.

**GALLERY PLAYERS:** presents "You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown." \$15. \$12 children 12 and under and seniors. 8 pm. 199 14th St. (718) 595-0547.

**MULTIMEDIA FEST:** Festival of sound and video exhibitions and performances. \$10. 8 pm. Also, late-night lounge. Office Ops, 57 Thames St. (718) 416-2509.

**BAM CAFE:** Danny Simmons of Def Poetry Jam hosts "Music and Words" with artist Nicka Workman and performer Danny Beatz. \$10 food/drink minimum. 9 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music, 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4111.

**FIRST WEEKEND:** Brooklyn Arts Exchange presents a new performance and discussion series featuring Defacto Dance, Rubi Theater Company and Duo-Wop Moderno. \$15. \$8 low-income. 8 pm. 421 Fifth Ave. (718) 632-0018.

**SALON & SHOWROOM:** The Xpo's January showcase, "Through the Looking Glass," offers permits and refreshments. \$10. Open 10 am to 5 pm. Performances at 8 pm. 25 Jay St. (718) 797-2527.

**PERFORMANCE & PIXELS:** Micro-Museum hosts multi-media interactive performance event including "The Kissing Installation," "Moulin Rouge," and "The Crystal Box." \$5. 123 Smith St. 8 pm. (718) 797-3718.

**CHILDREN**

**DUCK MONTH:** Audubon Center's educators have designated January as duck month. Kids are invited to explore canvases, wood ducks and green-winged teals. Learn about these web-footed birds. Nature and crafts activities for the whole family. 1



Outside the box: The Micro Museum will feature "The Crystal Box" (Natalie Taylor, pictured), a multi-media work featuring the Laziza Electric Dance Company, as part of its "Performance and Pixels" events on Jan. 10 and 11.

pm to 4 pm. Prospect Park. (718) 287-3400. Free.

**BROOKLYN CHILDREN'S MUSEUM:** presents "Catch a Snowflake." \$4. Free for members. 2 pm to 5 pm. 145 Brooklyn Ave. (718) 735-4400.

**AUDITION:** Brooklyn Youth Chorus Academy holds mid-year auditions for girls and boys grade 2 and up. Call. (718) 243-8447.

### OTHER

**OPEN HOUSE:** Chickpeas Childcare Center, a parent-run cooperative preschool, hosts an open house. 11 am to 1 pm. 211 Eighth St. (718) 788-6404. Free.

**MEETING:** of AAPD Ovington Chapter SUSS. 1 pm. Bay Ridge Center for Older Adults, 4755 Fourth Ave. (718) 748-0650.

## SUN, JAN 11

### PERFORMANCE

**MUSIC OFF THE WALLS:** Brooklyn Philharmonic presents "The Jewish Journey." Concert explores question of what defines Jewish music and how composers ranging from Mendelssohn to Bernstein have found ways to relate to their cultures and times. Concert is presented in conjunction with the museum exhibit "The Jewish Journey: Frederic Brenner's Photographic Odyssey." \$15. \$10 students and seniors. 3 pm. Brooklyn Museum of Art, 200 Eastern Parkway. (718) 622-8638.

**BARGE MUSIC:** presents an all Beethoven chamber music concert. \$35. 4 pm. Fulton Ferry Landing. (718) 624-2083.

### CHILDREN

**SCREENWRITERS CLASS:** Brooklyn Young Filmmakers hosts a class for adults and youth 15 years and older. Learn proper screenplay format, discover the history of filmmaking, learn to write with a visual focus, create storyboards and more. \$100 for four sessions. 6:30 pm to 9 pm. 57 Roosevelt Place. (718) 852-9342.

**AUDITIONS:** Impact Theater hosts a try out for people of all types and ages. 4 pm to 7 pm. Call for appointment. 190 Underhill Ave. (718) 253-1256.

## TUES, JAN 13

**BLOOD DRIVE:** at Grace Episcopal Church. 4 pm to 8 pm. 254 Hicks St. (800) 933-BLOOD.

**COMPUTER COURSE:** Families First offers a computer-for-adults course. \$125. Eight weeks. 250 Baltic St. Call to register. (718) 237-1862.

**NETS ARENA:** Prospect Heights Action Coalition hosts a "No Stadium Rally" featuring guest speaker, author and former New York Yankee and "Ball Four" author Jim Bouton. 7 pm. Hanson Place Methodist Church, corner of Hanson Place and St. Peter Street. (718) 636-0498.

## WEDS, JAN 14

**FILM:** Watch Club Video series presents "The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers." (2002). 2 pm. Parish Hall, 157 Montague St. (718) 875-6962. Free.

**MEETING:** Bay Ridge AARP meets 2 pm. Our Lady of Angels, 337 74th St. (718) 788-7372.

**AUDITIONS:** Impact Theater hosts a try out for people of all types and ages. 4 pm to 7 pm. Call for appointment. 190 Underhill Ave. (718) 253-1256.

**MEETING:** General board meeting of Community Board 6. 6:30 pm. John Jay High School, 237 Seventh Ave. (718) 643-3027.

**ST. ANN'S WAREHOUSE:** presents "Hiroshima Maiden." Puppet theater dramatizes the true story of the Hiroshima Maidens, a group of Japanese women disfigured by the nuclear blast. \$25. 8 pm. 38 Water St. (718) 254-8779.

**WALKING TOUR:** The Prospect Heights Action Coalition presents its census of the numbers of people, jobs and buildings to be demolished by building of Nets arena. 10 am. Followed by 11 am walking tour with author Jim Bouton and book signing. Freddy's Historic Bar, 45 Dean St. at Sixth Avenue. (718) 622-7035.

## THURS, JAN 15

**CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:** Resources for Children with Special Needs Inc. hosts a talk, "Transition from School to Adult Life." 10 am to 11 pm. Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn Heights Branch, 265 Brooklyn Heights Court.

**BLOOD DRIVE:** at Federal Court. 10 am to 3:30 pm. 225 Cadman Plaza East. (800) 933-BLOOD.

**OPENING:** Rounda Gallery presents "A Slow Read," an exhibition about the process of discovering a work of art, which requires a commitment of time by both artist and viewer. 6 pm to 8 pm. 33 Clinton St. (718) 875-4047. Free.

**BARGE MUSIC:** presents a chamber music concert of works by Dohnányi, Faure, Schubert and Dvorak. \$35. 7:30 pm. Fulton Ferry Landing. (718) 624-2083.

**SHAKESPEARE:** Waterloo Bridge Theater Company presents "Twelfth Night or What You Will." \$15. \$10 students. 8 pm. 475 Third Ave. (212) 502-0796.

**GALLERY PLAYERS:** presents "You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown." 8 pm. See Sat., Jan. 10.

**ST. ANN'S WAREHOUSE:** presents "Hiroshima Maiden." 8 pm. See Sat., Jan. 10.

## FRI, JAN 16

**BARGE MUSIC:** presents a chamber music concert of works by Dohnányi, Faure, Schubert and Dvorak. \$35. 7:30 pm. Fulton Ferry Landing. (718) 624-2083.

**BAM CAFE:** Pianist Anat Fort performs. \$10 food/drink minimum. 9 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music, 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4111.

**GALLERY PLAYERS:** presents "You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown." 8 pm. See Sat., Jan. 10.

**ST. ANN'S WAREHOUSE:** presents "Hiroshima Maiden." 8 pm. See Sat., Jan. 10.

**SHAKESPEARE:** Waterloo Bridge Theater Company presents "Twelfth Night or What You Will." 8 pm. See Sat., Jan. 10.

## SAT, JAN 17

### PERFORMANCE

**CONCERT:** Brooklyn Academy of Music presents "Praise Music," a gospel program featuring soloists Beverly Crawford and gospel choir Total Praise and New Life Tabernacle Choir. \$25. \$20. 7:30 pm. Howard Gilman Opera House, 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4100.

**BARGE MUSIC:** presents a chamber music concert of works by Dohnányi, Faure, Schubert and Dvorak. \$35. 7:30 pm. Fulton Ferry Landing. (718) 624-2083.

**GALLERY PLAYERS:** presents "You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown." \$15. \$12 children under 12 and seniors. 8 pm. 199 14th St. (718) 595-0547.

**ST. ANN'S WAREHOUSE:** presents "Hiroshima Maiden." Puppet theater dramatizes the true story of the Hiroshima Maidens, a group of Japanese women disfigured by the nuclear blast. \$25. 8 pm. 38 Water St. (718) 254-8779.

**SHAKESPEARE:** Waterloo Bridge Theater Company presents "Twelfth Night or What You Will." \$15. \$10 students. 8 pm. 475 Third Ave. (212) 502-0796.

**BAM CAFE:** African Diaspora rhythms with Heritage O.P. \$10 food/drink minimum. 10 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music, 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4111.

### CHILDREN

**BROOKLYN CHILDREN'S MUSEUM:** presents "Amazing Animals." Learn how living things can get stuck in rocks. Appropriate for ages 7 and up. \$4. Free for members. 2 to 4 pm. 145 Brooklyn Ave. (718) 735-4400.

### OTHER

**BREEDING CLASS:** Brooklyn Aquarium Society offers a talk, "Breeding Tips and Hints." Learn everything you need to know to bring fish into breed mode, plus caring and raising of the fry. \$44.25, includes up to two guests. Free. ages 8 to 15 years. 9 am to noon. Audubon Center, Prospect Park. (718) 377-7749.

**AUDITIONS:** Impact Theater hosts a try out for people of all types and ages. 4 pm to 7 pm. Call for appointment. 190 Underhill Ave. (718) 253-1256.

## SUN, JAN 18

### PERFORMANCE

**BARGE MUSIC:** presents a chamber music concert of works by Dohnányi, Faure, Schubert and Dvorak. \$35. 7:30 pm. Fulton Ferry Landing. (718) 624-2083.

**GALLERY PLAYERS:** presents "You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown." 3 pm. See Sat., Jan. 17.

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Send resume and cover letter to: Lisa J. Curtis, GO Brooklyn Editor, The Brooklyn Papers, 55 Washington St., Suite 506, Brooklyn, NY 11201

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Praise Music

Beverly Crawford

New Life Tabernacle Mass Choir with Bishop Eric R. Figueroa, Sr.

Total Praise of Emmanuel Baptist Church

Directed by Abdel R. Salaam Hosted by Bishop Sam Williams

BAM Howard Gilman Opera House Jan 17 at 7:30pm \$20, 25

The power and the glory of gospel takes centerstage with Praise Music as Grammy-nominee Beverly Crawford and two of Brooklyn's finest gospel choirs bring their heavenly sounds to BAM.

Photo of Beverly Crawford by Todd C. Canfield

SALE Lake City, Utah-based SB Dance will unveil its hour-long modern dance work "The Bucket" at the Williamsburg Art Nexus (WAX) Jan. 15-17. This unconventional piece, performed by a trio of athletic dancers, makes a quartet with a bucket that is put to work in a variety of ways, from bathtub to basket. It's also a hiding place, a percussion instrument and part of a fishing pole. Set to an eclectic soundtrack incorporating everything from Indian music to Liberace, "The Bucket" is a humorous yet provocative work by Artistic Director Stephen Brown, who has danced with Fort Greene's own Mark Morris Dance Group (another troupe that is not afraid to incorporate a bit of humor into dance). The three featured dancers — Brown, Christine Hasegawa and Liberty Valentine — are also credited as co-creators of the piece. Brown's company, which has been in operation since 1997, incorporates props — countless ping pong balls, set design by Mattson McFarland and costumes in "The Bucket" to visually arresting effect. SB Dance will perform "The Bucket" Jan. 15-16 at 8 pm, and Jan. 17 at 6 pm, at WAX, 205 North Seventh St. between Driggs Avenue and Roebing Street in Williamsburg. Tickets are \$12. For reservations, call (718) 599-7997. For more information, visit [www.sbdance.com](http://www.sbdance.com) on the Web.

— Lisa J. Curtis

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